

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 15 public bills, H.R. 3533–3547; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 91; and H. Res. 480–482 were introduced. **Pages H8074–76**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H8076**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 2845, to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for enhanced safety and environmental protection in pipeline transportation, to provide for enhanced reliability in the transportation of the Nation's energy products by pipeline, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–297 Pt. 1);

S. 535, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands within Fort Pulaski National Monument, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–298);

H.R. 1158, to authorize the conveyance of mineral rights by the Secretary of the Interior in the State of Montana, and for other purposes, with an amendment (Rept. 112–299);

H.R. 2172, to facilitate the development of wind energy resources on Federal lands, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–300 Pt. 1);

H.R. 2842, to authorize all Bureau of Reclamation conduit facilities for hydropower development under Federal Reclamation law, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–301);

H.R. 2803, to direct the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, to conduct a technological capability assessment, survey, and economic feasibility study regarding recovery of minerals, other than oil and natural gas, from the shallow and deep seabed of the United States, with amendments (H. Rept. 112–302);

H.R. 2578, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act related to a segment of the Lower Merced River in California, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–303);

H.R. 2360, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to extend the Constitution, laws, and jurisdiction of the United States to installations and devices attached to the seabed of the Outer Continental Shelf for the production and support of production of energy from sources other than oil and gas, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–304);

H.R. 2351, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to continue stocking fish in certain lakes in the North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake National

Recreation Area, and Lake Chelan National Recreation Area (H. Rept. 112–305);

H.R. 1556, to amend the Omnibus Indian Advancement Act to allow certain land to be used to generate income to provide funding for academic programs, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–306);

H.R. 1461, to authorize the Mescalero Apache Tribe to lease adjudicated water rights (H. Rept. 112–307);

H.R. 991, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to allow importation of polar bear trophies taken in sport hunts in Canada before the date the polar bear was determined to be a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–308);

H.R. 850, to facilitate a proposed project in the Lower St. Croix Wild and Scenic River, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–309);

H.R. 306, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement to provide for management of the free-roaming wild horses in and around the Currituck National Wildlife Refuge, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–310); and

H. Res. 479, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 10) to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–311). **Page H8074**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative West to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H8001**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:28 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H8011**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Dr. Cathy Jones, Parkwood Institutional CME Church, Charlotte, North Carolina. **Page H8011**

Terminating taxpayer financing of presidential election campaigns and party conventions and terminating the Election Assistance Commission: The House passed H.R. 3463, to reduce Federal spending and the deficit by terminating taxpayer financing of presidential election campaigns and party conventions and by terminating the Election Assistance Commission, by a recorded vote of 235 ayes to 190 noes, Roll No. 873. **Pages H8016–32, H8032–34**

Rejected the Bishop (GA) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on House Administration with instructions to report the same back to the

House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 190 yeas to 236 nays, Roll No. 872.

Pages H8032–34

H. Res. 477, the rule that is providing for consideration of H.R. 3463, H.R. 527, and H.R. 3010, was agreed to yesterday, November 30th.

Recess: The House recessed at 1:56 p.m. and reconvened at 2:05 p.m.

Page H8032

Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2011: The House passed H.R. 527, to amend chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the Regulatory Flexibility Act), to ensure complete analysis of potential impacts on small entities of rules, by a recorded vote of 263 yeas to 159 noes, Roll No. 880.

Pages H8034–56

Rejected the Loretta Sanchez motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 188 yeas to 233 noes, Roll No. 879.

Pages H8054–55

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of the Rules Committee Print dated November 18, 2011 shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule, in lieu of the amendments in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committees on the Judiciary and Small Business now printed in the bill.

Page H8041

Agreed to:

Critz amendment (No. 1 printed in part A of H. Rept. 112–296) that requires the estimated cumulative impact on small businesses of any other rule stemming from the implementation of the Free Trade Agreements.

Page H8044

Rejected:

Jackson Lee amendment (No. 2 printed in part A of H. Rept. 112–296) that sought to exempt all rules promulgated by the Department of Homeland Security (by a recorded vote of 173 yeas to 244 noes, Roll No. 874);

Pages H8044–46, H8050–51

Cohen amendment (No. 3 printed in part A of H. Rept. 112–296) that sought to exempt from the bill any rule that relates to food safety, workplace safety, consumer products safety, air or water quality (by a recorded vote of 171 yeas to 248 noes, Roll No. 875);

Pages H8046–47, H8051

Peters amendment (No. 4 printed in part A of H. Rept. 112–296) that sought to exempt from the bill all rules that OMB determines would result in net job creation (by a recorded vote of 179 yeas to 243 noes, Roll No. 876);

Pages H8047–48, H8052

Jackson Lee amendment (No. 5 printed in part A of H. Rept. 112–296) that sought to require a GAO report to determine the cost of carrying out the Act and the effect it will have on federal agency rule

making. In addition, the report would need to contain information on the impact of repealing the ability of an agency to waive provisions in the Regulatory Flexibility Act when responding to an emergency (by a recorded vote of 172 yeas to 250 noes, Roll No. 877); and

Pages H8048–49, H8052–53

Johnson (GA) amendment (No. 6 printed in part A of H. Rept. 112–296) that sought to create an exception for any rule making to carry out the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (by a recorded vote of 170 yeas to 250 noes, Roll No. 878).

Pages H8049–50, H8053–54

H. Res. 477, the rule that is providing for consideration of H.R. 3463, H.R. 527, and H.R. 3010, was agreed to yesterday, November 30th.

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and agree to the following measure which was debated on November 30th:

Designating room HVC 215 of the Capitol Visitor Center as the “Gabriel Zimmerman Meeting Room”: H. Res. 364, to designate room HVC 215 of the Capitol Visitor Center as the “Gabriel Zimmerman Meeting Room”, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 419 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 881.

Pages H8056–57

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H8011–12.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and eight recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8033–34, H8034, H8050–51, H8051, H8052, H8052–53, H8053, H8055, H8055–56, H8056–57. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Committee Meetings

USDA INSPECTOR GENERAL AUDITS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, and Credit held a hearing to review updates on USDA Inspector General Audits, including SNAP fraud detection efforts and IT compliance. Testimony was heard from Phyllis K. Fong, Inspector General, Office of Inspector General, Department of Agriculture.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a markup of the “Jumpstarting Opportunity with Broadband Spectrum (JOBS) Act of 2011.” The bill was forwarded, as amended.

FHA SINGLE-FAMILY INSURANCE FUND

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Perspectives on the Health of the FHA Single-family Insurance Fund.” Testimony was heard from Mathew Scire, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Federal Housing Finance Agency.” Testimony was heard from Edward J. DeMarco, Acting Director, Federal Housing Finance Agency; and public witnesses.

DEMOCRACY HELD HOSTAGE IN NICARAGUA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Democracy Held Hostage in Nicaragua: Part I.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup of the following: H.R. 2572, the “Clean Up Government Act of 2001”; and H.R. 1433, the “Private Property Rights Protection Act of 2011”. H.R. 2572 was ordered reported, as amended. The Committee began markup of H.R. 1433.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a hearing on the following: H.R. 594, the “Coastal Jobs Creation Act of 2011”; H.R. 1013, the “Strengthen Fisheries Management in New England Act of 2011”; H.R. 1646, the “American Angler Preservation Act”; H.R. 2304, the “Fishery Science Improvement Act of 2011”; H.R. 2610, the “Asset Forfeiture Fund Reform and Distribution Act of 2011”; H.R. 2753, the “Fishery Management Transparency and Accountability Act”; H.R. 2772, the “Saving Fishing Jobs Act of 2011”; and H.R. 3061, the “Flexibility and Access in Rebuilding American Fisheries Act of 2011”. Testimony was heard from Rep. Frank of Massachusetts; Rep. Pallone; Rep. Jones; Rep. Wittman; Rep. Runyan; Rep. Keating; Eric Schwaab, Assistant Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service; and public witnesses.

HHS AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “HHS and the Catholic Church: Examining the Politicization of Grants.” Testimony was heard from George Sheldon, Acting Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and

Human Services; and Eskinder Negash, Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services.

REGULATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE IN NEED OF SCRUTINY ACT OF 2011

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 10, the “Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2011.” The Committee granted, by a vote of 6 to 4, a structured rule providing one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Rules now printed in the bill, as modified by the amendment in part A of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted. The rule provides that the bill, as amended, shall be considered as original text for the purpose of further amendment and shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The rule provides that during any recess or adjournment of not more than three days, if in the opinion of the Speaker the public interest so warrants, then the Speaker or his designee, after consultation with the Minority Leader, may reconvene the House at a time other than that previously appointed, within the limits of clause 4, section 5, article I of the Constitution, and notify Members accordingly. Finally, the rule provides that clause 3 of rule XXIX shall apply to the availability requirements for a conference report and the accompanying joint statement under clause 8(a)(1) of rule XXII.

Testimony was heard from Rep. Gowdy; Rep. Johnson of Georgia; and Rep. Sessions.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a markup of H.R. 3479, the Natural